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*Original*

surface of said first backing layer for bonding to a surface of an object, and a separable connector surface comprising hook and loop fasteners [a plurality of interengaging elements] covering at least a portion of said second major surface of said first backing layer, wherein said first backing layer and said adhesive surface are stretchable together to effect progressive debonding of the adhesive surface from an object, after the adhesive surface is bonded to that object, by the application of a force to the first end of the first backing layer in a direction of extension of the first backing layer between its first and second ends and said separable connector surface possesses the ability to be connected, disconnected and reconnected to a cooperating connection surface without destruction of the separable connector surface and the adhesive tape.

41. (Twice amended) A stretch releasing adhesive tape with a refastenable connection for attaching plural objects to one another, comprising:

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- (a) a stretchable first backing layer having first and second major surfaces and first and second ends, said first end including a non adhesive manually engageable tab portion to facilitate stretching of said first backing layer, said backing layer having a lengthwise elongation at break of from about 50% to about 1200%, said backing layer including an adhesive surface over at least a portion of said first major surface for bonding to a surface of an object; and
- (b) a separable connector surface comprising hook and loop fasteners [an array of elements] distributed over at least a portion of said second major surface of said first backing layer, said separable connector surface

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*cont'd*

possessing the ability to be connected, disconnected, and reconnected to a cooperating connection surface without destruction of the separable connector surface and the adhesive tape;

wherein said first backing layer and said adhesive surface are stretchable together to effect progressive debonding of the adhesive surface from an object, after the adhesive surface is bonded to that object, by the application of a force to the manually engageable tab portion in a direction of extension.

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50. (Amended) The adhesive tape of claim 1, further comprising a stretchable second backing layer having first and second major surfaces and first and second ends, an adhesive surface over at least a portion of said first major surface of said second backing layer for bonding to a surface of another object, and a cooperating separable connector surface comprising hook and loop fasteners covering at least a portion of said second major surface of said second backing layer, wherein said second backing layer and its adhesive surface are stretchable together to effect progressive debonding of the adhesive surface from the other object, after its adhesive surface is bonded to that object, by the application of a force to the first end of the second backing layer in a direction of extension of the second backing layer between its first and second ends and said cooperating separable connector surface possesses the ability to be connected, disconnected and reconnected to said connection surface of said first backing layer without destruction of the separable connector surface, the cooperating connection surface and the adhesive tape.

Please add the following claims:

54. An adhesive tape for attaching plural objects to one another, said tape comprising

a stretchable first backing layer having first and second major surfaces and first and second ends, an adhesive surface over at least a portion of said first major surface of said first backing layer for bonding to a surface of an object, and a separable connector surface comprising a plurality of hook or loop fasteners covering at least a portion of said second major surface of said first backing layer, wherein said first backing layer and said adhesive surface are stretchable together to effect progressive debonding of the adhesive surface from an object, by the application of a force to the first end of the first backing layer in a direction of extension of the first backing layer between its first and second ends.

D4  
55. An adhesive tape comprising:

(a) a stretchable first backing layer having first and second major surfaces, said first major surface having at least a portion thereof covered by an adhesive surface, wherein said first backing layer and said adhesive surface are stretchable together to effect progressive debonding of the adhesive surface from an object by application of a force to the first backing layer in a direction of lengthwise extension of the first backing layer; and

(b) a plurality of hook or loop fasteners covering at least a portion of said second major surface of said first backing layer.

56. The adhesive tape according to claim 55, wherein said adhesive tape is covered with a liner on a side opposite to which said plurality of hook or loop fasteners are adhered.

57. The adhesive tape according to claim 55, wherein the adhesive tape comprises a non-adhesive manually engageable tab portion.

58. The adhesive tape according to claim 57, wherein the non-adhesive manually engageable tab portion protrudes beyond the hook or loop fasteners.

59. The adhesive tape according to claim 55, wherein the adhesive tape is stretchable due to the presence of the first backing layer.

60. The adhesive tape according to claim 55, wherein said hook or loop fasteners are fastened to a plurality of mating hook or loop fasteners, said mating hook or loop fasteners adhered to one side of a second stretchable backing layer having first and second major surfaces, said second backing layer including a second adhesive surface over at least a portion of said first major surface for bonding to a surface of an object, wherein said second backing layer and said second adhesive surface are stretchable together to effect progressive debonding by the application of a force to said second stretchable backing layer.

61. The adhesive tape according to claim 60, wherein the adhesive tape is covered with a liner on a side opposite that to which said plurality of hook or loop fasteners are adhered, and/or the second backing layer is covered with a liner on the side opposite to that which said plurality of mating hook or loop fasteners are adhered.

62. The adhesive tape according to claim 60, wherein the adhesive tape comprises a non-adhesive manually engageable tab portion, and/or the second backing layer comprises a non-adhesive manually engageable tab portion.

63. The adhesive tape according to claim 62, wherein the non-adhesive manually engageable tab portion of the adhesive tape protrudes beyond the hook or loop fasteners, and/or